

THE NEWPORT PLAIN TALK

VOL. XII

NEWPORT, TENNESSEE, THURSDAY, JULY 13, 1911

(Eight Pages)

NO. 3

PIKE ROADS COMMENDED

Cocke County Getting Value for Every Dollar Spent.

GOOD ROADS TRAIN HERE

Nice Crowd Sees the Exhibits and Then the Government Road Experts Are Taken on an Inspection Tour of the County's Roads.

The Good Roads Train and Road Improvement Exhibits of the Southern Railway spent Saturday in Newport. The train was greeted by a crowd estimated from three to five hundred people, and those present seemed to take a deep interest in the lectures and exhibits.

The special train consisted of three cars—one exhibit car, one lecture car and a private Pullman car. W. J. Hurlbut, agent of the Land and Industrial Department of the Southern Railway; T. B. Thackston, agent of the Land and Industrial Department of the Southern Railway, and H. S. Fairbanks and L. E. Boykin, Engineers of the office of Public Roads, composed the party.

Immediately upon arrival here, the lecture car was thrown open and as fast as it was filled Mr. Boykin explained the illustrated views which showed the difference between the good and bad roads. The speaker made good use of every minute of his time and the lectures were appreciated by all present. The pictures did not show any scenes new to Newport. The people of this county have seen every kind of bad road that has ever existed, but the pictures did show how the bad roads could be converted into good roads.

After the lectures, the Pike Commission, through the kindness of Messrs. J. M. Masters and G. F. Smith were able to convey the engineers over some of the work in automobiles. Photographs were taken of the various scenes and the work thoroughly examined.

In speaking of his trip Engineer H. S. Fairbanks stated that the money Cocke county has expended had been well spent. He said that the methods of construction were in accord with the best methods of road construction throughout the country. He stated that he had found that the county was keeping an accurate account of the costs of every expenditure and that the work was being done under proper supervision with an inspector for each section of road, which is the system adopted in States furtherest advanced in road construction.

Mr. Fairbanks stated that the county had received good value for the money expended, which he stated he understood was less than \$125,000, and still the county had ten miles of macadam on its forty miles of graded road. He stated that the engineer and the pike commission had made an especially good showing with the money in view of the fact that much of the grade work had been through rock. He stated that he had gone over the specifications of the engineer, had found them in fine shape, and that the records were so kept that he was enabled to tell the actual cost of any piece of work on the specification and that the engineer could tell at all times just how much money was being expended and could with this knowledge cut down the expenses. He stated that he had looked over the figures for one of the county's completed miles and this had shown that it had been completed at a cost of less than \$4000 which, he said, was an exceptionally low figure considering the nature of the country.

THE BOARD IN SESSION

A Lively Fight is Presaged for Future.

TWO TILTS IN PROSPECT

The Members May Have Some Interesting Debates Over the Question of Banking the Water Fund and an Account of the Stokely Brothers.

The Board of Aldermen had a very lengthy but unimportant meeting Friday night—it was a presageful one, and some interesting discussions are predicted at future meetings. The real business of the meeting could have been handled by a lively board in twenty or thirty minutes. The business consisted in the presentment and referring of the claim of Stokely Bros. & Co., for hauling dirt, amounting to a sum of \$115 to the old street committee; the authorizing of the payment of \$33 for transcripts furnished by the clerks of the House of Representatives and Senate respectively; the payment of the claim of THE NEWPORT PLAIN TALK for \$5.25 and that of Sheriff Dawson for feeding the corporation's prisoners. The sum of \$6 per year was appropriated as the corporation's portion toward the lights at the jail. Alderman McMahan thought the county should pay the whole thing, as the people of the corporation were a part of the county and, if they paid anything extra, were being double taxed. The appropriation was made, however.

A fine against M. A. Roadman of \$25 for selling fireworks last Christmas was reduced to \$10 and costs, inasmuch as other offenders escaped without being fined by falsely swearing, while Mr. Roadman made no effort to deny that he was selling same.

A fine of \$4.50 against the late Richard Haynes, secured by Creed Allen, was remitted owing to the circumstances under which Haynes died.

L. A. Shults, special officer in Eastport, was given a sum of \$5 for arrests and convictions due to his work.

The old committees were re-appointed and are as follows:

Street Committee—R. H. McMahan, Forest Stokely, Geo. Stokely.

Sanitary Committee—A. A. Cates, R. P. Driskill.

Finance Committee—R. P. Driskill, Geo. Stokely, Forest Stokely.

Prof. Driskill brought up the question of banking the funds of the water works bond issue. He suggested that the money be placed equally between the two home banks. Attorney Mims thereupon suggested that the money remain in the hands of the bond house until desired by the corporation, the town in the meantime receiving 5% on the investment. There was no final action taken and this is one item which will bring forth lively discussion at later meetings.

The account of Stokely Brothers will also bring forth discussion at some later date. Under ordinary circumstances this account would be fought by the Mayor, and it has been customary here to permit the Mayor to win his points, no matter what the nature may be, but there are said to be certain business contingencies which may prevent any opposition to the account from the executive head of the corporation. The account in question is for the hauling of dirt from the quarry of Stokely Bros. & Co., the owners of the quarry desiring to get out some rock, and as the corporation had permitted the dirt to accumulate it was necessary for this dirt to be removed before the rock could be reached, and as a result, Stokely Bros. & Co., ask the corporation to re-imburse them for money expended in removing the dirt.

MANGLED IN MILL SHAFTING

Samuel Wilson Sustains Very Serious Injuries.

RIGHT ARM AMPUTATED

Had Been Severed Below the Elbow and Badly Fractured Above As Result of Accident in the Bison Rolling Mill, Near Wilton Springs.

Hurled against and wound about the rapidly revolving shafting in the Bison Rolling Mill, opposite the river from Wilton Springs, Samuel Wilson, one of the best known merchants and prosperous citizens of that section was terribly mangled Friday afternoon, losing an arm and suffering other injuries. His suffering was intense and he was forced to do without the assistance of physicians for more than two hours.

At the time of the accident Mr. Wilson was endeavoring to place a belt on the shafting. In some manner his arm became fastened and in an instant he was jerked to the shafting and hurled around it, and when he dropped to the floor, his right arm had been completely severed just below the elbow. He also suffered numerous bruises about the body and head, and may have sustained internal injuries, which could not be determined on first examination.

Word was sent to Newport as soon as possible, but it was two hours before medical assistance was received, Drs. Delozier, Bingham and Snoddy answering the call. Upon arrival of the physicians, the arm was amputated above the fractures. From last reports the injured man was doing better than had been expected and he had stood the shock exceedingly well.

Mr. Wilson is probably as widely known as any man in the Cosby country. Not only is he the proprietor of the Bison Rolling Mill, but conducts two stores, one at the mill and the other on Cosby.

THREE HURT IN EXPLOSION

Thrashing Machine Engine Explodes Near Ottinger's Store.

ONE MAN FATALLY HURT

John Kyker, Roy Boyles and Horace Cooper Are Terribly Scalded in An Explosion of a Boiler While Thrashing Wheat on Bacon Farm.

One man was fatally and two seriously injured through the explosion of the boiler of a thrashing machine engine on a farm near the store of C. L. Ottinger last Friday.

The injured: JOHN KYKER, fatally. ROY BOYLES. HORACE COOPER.

While at work on the Bacon farm, just at the Greene county line, the boiler of the engine exploded, sending scalding water over the three men, all receiving terrible wounds.

When Kyker's clothing was taken from him the skin came off from his face to his lower limbs, and very little hope of his recovery is given. The other men also sustained serious burns but it is not expected that their injuries will prove fatal.

LOSES THREE 5-DOLLAR BILLS

On Saturday Elmer Cline had the misfortune to lose three \$5 bills which he had in his pocket. He searched diligently, but no trace of the missing money could be found.

MAKE RAID IN THIS COUNTY

Revenue Officers Visit Ravens Branch Sunday.

TWO MEN UNDER ARREST

It is Claimed That Ike and Abe Rollins Own Up to the Operation of a Still, Two Miles From Hartford, and Supply of Malt is Found.

Deputy Collector D. S. Bowers and Revenue Agents G. M. Williams and Brown Seaton made a raid Saturday night which resulted in the arrest of Abe and I. M. Rollins at Ravens Branch, and the destruction of considerable moonshine essentials.

The officers left Newport immediately after train No. 102 had run. They drove to McGhee's Ford, just below Bluffton and made the remainder of the trip on foot. It was a good seven mile hike, and the officers went to the home of Ike Rollins and found him in bed.

It is said that Ike confessed to the operation of the still and later Abe owned up to working about it, but denied any official connection with same.

After being arrested the boys were walked to McGhee's Ford where the team had been held in waiting and arrived back in Newport nearly 24 hours after their departure from here.

The two Rollins boys were taken before U. S. Commissioner Mims and after being given a hearing were held under bond for the United States court.

According to the testimony of Collector Bowers before the commissioners, the still was found on mountain land owned by the Tannery company. Ike confessed to having run the still for a little over a month and said he had purchased it in North Carolina.

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THE DROUTH COMES TO END

Plenty of Rain in County During Past Week.

THE CORN MAY BE SAVED

English Creek on Rampage as the Result of Hardest Rain Seen in That Section in at Least Twenty Years.—Many Fences Destroyed.

The drouth, so far as Cocke county is concerned, is broken. Since last Wednesday there has been a dozen hard storms in the county, some bringing welcome relief to some sections and others relief to some section missed by the first, and practically every spot in the county has had some relief. This means that the corn crop, which was in great danger, will not be hurt as bad as first indications showed.

There was heavy rain on English Creek Saturday and considerable damage was done by the water. Old residents say it was the hardest rain in that section in twenty years. Bridges, which never before had been touched by the high water, were washed away. Blackmon Sisk sustained considerable damage when the logs in coming down the creek tore through his wire fence, tearing it loose and wrapping it around other obstacles.

Corn was torn down and the damage was considerable at some points. Some damage was done to the road work—there were washouts and the road leading by Dave Stokely's was in such shape that the rural carrier was unable to make his trip Monday, the accustomed way, and was forced to take a round-about way.

LEGISLATURE AT AN END

Final Session Was Held Last Friday.

JOHN I. COX DENOUNCED

Session Will Be Best Remembered by What it Did Not Do.—Governor Hooper Had a Stormy Time But Retained Whip Hand.

The Tennessee legislature came to an end Friday at noon. It was the fifty-seventh assembly and will be best remembered for what it did not do. No changes were made in the election or temperance laws. In all ninety general laws were passed by the legislators while 526 local measures that apply to certain communities were passed and placed on the statute books.

The legislature was full of strife from its organization. Deals were made by various factions and one of them resulted in the filibuster which carried fusion forces from the State for weeks, and in the end a deal between fusion forces and the Shelby delegation brought the lawmakers together and resulted in the completion of the work of the session. Many hard words were said during the session. The governor came in for more personal abuse than has even been given another governor, but in the end he held the whip hand, and with his power of veto prevented the greedy lawmakers from stealing more booty from the treasury. The session was marred by fist fights and the ugly word was uttered several times. In the closing session Representative Miller of Shelby, a regular democrat characterized State Senator John I. Cox as a liar and a thief, and the senator took his medicine. The session brought to light a new class of Republicans, the Houk-Taylor brand, and the double dealing of these alleged Republicans was the cause of embarrassment to the governor throughout the session. The final acts of the lawmakers found every alignment split; the regulars were hopelessly divided; the Republicans were split in twain and the fusionists could not keep their men under control, and the veto power of the governor alone stood between the boodle grabbers and the people.

Among the bills passed were the following of interest to the people of this section:

To amend common school law of the State.

To submit to people an amendment to the constitution to elect secretary of State by popular vote.

To submit to people proposition to amend constitution to elect sheriff, register and trustee for four years.

To submit to people proposition to amend constitution to elect governor for four years.

To submit to people proposition to elect treasurer and comptroller by popular vote.

To extend closed season of deer.

To prohibit purchase of quail.

To prohibit sale of robins.

To raise the age of consent to twenty-one years.

To clerk of county courts to administer oath to notary publics.

To authorize county courts to issue school bonds.

To require State and county officers to make sworn expense accounts.

To submit to the people an amendment to the constitution providing for the election of the attorney-general by popular vote.

To empower county courts to contract with hospitals for the care of dependent persons.

To amend the act providing for the purity of elections.

There were several acts passed relating to the election of judges.

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CROSSES OCEAN ON CATTLE SHIP

Alfred Mims Home From An Eventful Trip.

WORKED HIS WAY OVER

The Youngest Son of D. A. Mims Sees Sights of London and Paris and is Back Home After Absence of Seven Weeks—Has Enjoyable Time.

Alfred Mims, youngest son of D. A. Mims, is back from London, Paris and other European points, after an eventful trip over the ocean aboard a cattle ship.

Young Mims left home on the 18th day of May without acquainting his friends of his destination. He landed in Washington the following day and went straight forth to Baltimore where he learned that the cattle ship "Ulstermore" would sail a short time later. He was able to secure a place with the crew of the ship, and occupied the position of night watchman on the thirteen day voyage. He says that he did not get sick, and that the fare was especially good. He had planned to rough it, not only in bodily comfort but had expected the table a very poor one, and was therefore pleased with the living offered.

There were 438 head of cattle on the ship and the crew was short two or three men, yet the trip was not marred by any accidents although he reports having witnessed the spectacle of a burial at sea, as an invalid taken on at Baltimore expired on the high seas, was properly weighted and after being sewed in a sack was thrown overboard.

After twelve days out, the ship put into port at Liverpool, and here young Mims spent the first three days looking over the sights. He next went to London, which is something like 200 miles away and there he remained until June eighteenth just four days previous to the coronation. He did not stay for the big show, as the town was filling up so fast, that there were several prices offered for all lodging places, and fearing the crush to get back to America immediately afterwards he decided to go to Liverpool and be ready to sail immediately after the coronation. He was able to see the beautiful decorations and all the preparations had been completed, when he left. Before going to Liverpool he made a trip to Paris, spending three days in that city and came home enthusiastic about the Eiffel tower of that city. He was also impressed at the manner in which the people of that section devoured their strong drink in places, no matter how public. He returned home on the "Sultic," arriving in New York, July 2, and did not quit that city until Thursday of last week, stopping off at Washington for two days on the return trip.

The trip was a novel one to young Mims. He suffered no inconvenience other than that from close association with cattle for two weeks. He was enthusiastic about London, saw practically all of the big show places, taking advantage of the guides which enable the visitor to see the great city without assistance. He visited the Piccadilly Circus, the Houses of Parliament, Westminster Abbey, St. Pauls, the Bank of England, the parks, and in fact practically every point of interest of which he had read. His trip home aboard the Sultic, was an enjoyable one, and as he was able to witness a series of base ball games in New York, before coming back toward the Southland, he arrived home much benefitted in knowledge and health as a result of his travels.